

Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation Full Commission Meeting

Meeting Summary

October 14, 1999

Commission members present: Peter Bennett, Commissioner Ted Bottiger, Don Briscoe, Greg Devereux, Roger Dormaier, Councilmember Dave Earling, Representative Ruth Fisher, Jim Fitzgerald, Senator Mary Margaret Haugen, Robert Helsell, Doug Hurley, Peter Hurley, Commissioner Bettie Ingham, Senator Valoria Loveland, Councilmember Richard McIver, Representative Maryann Mitchell, Tomio Moriguchi, Charles Mott, Representative Ed Murray, Connie Niva, Commissioner Patricia Notter, Patricia Otley, Larry Pursley, Mike Roberts, Senator Dino Rossi, Skip Rowley, Representative Karen Schmidt, Randy Scott, Senator George Sellar, Commissioner Judie Stanton, Dale Stedman, Commissioner Judy Wilson

Commission members not present: Doug Beighle, Rick Bender, Bob Dilger, Governor Booth Gardner, John Kelly, Bill Lampson, Neil Peterson, John Rindlaub, Ken Smith

Business Meeting

Chairman's report: Senator Valoria Loveland opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The Commission adopted the summary notes of the May 12, 1999 Commission meeting and the September 8-9 retreat by consensus.

Senator Loveland announced the formation of an ad hoc Benchmark Committee. She reported that Chairman Beighle had appointed the following Commissioners as members: Bob Helsell, Chairman; John Kelly, Richard McIver, Greg Devereux, Judie Stanton, John Rindlaub, and Karen Schmidt.

Senator Loveland reviewed the year 2000 meeting schedule including a January 12, 2000 full Commission meeting in Olympia to adopt findings; a mid-May retreat to agree on draft options, and a final meeting in the last quarter of the year. The legislation establishing the Commission says the Commission shall report its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2000.

Anne Fennessy, Communications Consultant to the Commission reviewed fall outreach plans and described the process by which public comments would be obtained on the preliminary findings.

Committee reports: The committee chairmen reviewed the findings that their committees refined based on direction by the full Commission at the September retreat. The Commission adopted the revised preliminary findings by consensus. The complete text of changes was electronically recorded for the record and is reflected in the 25-page Preliminary Findings document dated October 14, 1999.

Public hearing: Senator Loveland welcomed speakers to provide comments on the preliminary findings. She noted that this is the first public hearing on the findings and that the goal of the findings is to capture the current state of the most pressing transportation issues.

The following people provided testimony which was electronically recorded:

Duke Schaub, Association of General Contractors; Alan Darr, Washington State Building Construction and Trades Council; Virginia Gunby, 1000 Friends of Washington; Sid Morrison, Secretary of Washington State Department of Transportation; Chris Mudgett, County Road Administration Board; David Allen, Transportation Choices Coalition; Gretchen Wilbert, Mayor of Gig Harbor; Diane Carlson, Association of Cities; Representative Jeanne Edwards, Vice Chair Transportation Committee on behalf of Washington State Transit Association; Greg Hanon, Western States Petroleum Association; Chuck Shank, Kitsap Connection; Doug Rauh, Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce; Robert Schuster, Washington State Good Roads and Transportation Association; Lihuang Wung, City of Tacoma; John Ernest Berry III, Brain Injury Association of Washington.

The Washington Wheat Commission provided written testimony.

Senator Loveland closed the public hearing at 3:30 p.m., after all speakers were heard. The Senator announced the Benchmark Committee would meet at 4:00 p.m. following the full Commission meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.